

**AN HISTORICAL SUMMARY AND  
PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE OF  
SPACECRAFT BATTERIES**



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**NASA BATTERY WORKSHOP  
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## OUTLINE

**HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF BATTERIES IN SPACE**  
**EVOLUTION AND STATUS OF NI-CD AND NI-H<sub>2</sub>**  
**PRESENT APPLICATIONS**  
**FUTURE APPLICATIONS**  
**ADVANCED BATTERIES FOR FUTURE MISSIONS**

# HISTORY OF BATTERIES IN SPACE

# APPLICATIONS - FIRST SPACE MISSIONS

1955	10/4/57	SPUTNIK 1 W FOR 3 WEEKS	Ag/Zn
	12/6/57	VANGUARD	Zn/HgO
	2/1/58	EXPLORER 1 VAN ALLEN RAD BELT	Zn/HgO
	8/7/59	EXPLORER 6 FIRST EARTH PHOTOS	Cyl Ni/Cd
1960	'61-64	RANGERS MOON PHOTOS	Pris Ni/Cd
	4/26/62	ARIEL I First LEO MISSION	Pris Ni/Cd
	6/23/63	SYNCOM-2 First GEO	Cyl Ni/Cd
1965	5/20/65	APOLLO CM LTD CYCLE LIFE	Ag/Zn

## APPLICATIONS - FIRST SPACE MISSIONS

1970	3/13/71	IMP 1	Ag/Cd NON-MAGNETIC
	6/23/77	NTS-2	Ni/H <sub>2</sub> 12 HOUR POLAR
	9/23/77	AF LEO	Ni/H <sub>2</sub>
1980	2/14/80	SOLAR MAX	Ni/Cd STANDARD BATTERY
	5/19/83	INTELSAT V	Ni/H <sub>2</sub> GEO
	4/4/83	STS-3	Li-BCX ASTRONAUT EQUIPMENT
	4/7/84	LDEF	LITHIUM & OTHERS EXPOSURE TO SPACE
	10/18/89	GALILEO HOURS	Li/SO <sub>2</sub> / WITH THERMAL BATTERY FOR JUPITER PROBE
1990			

# APPLICATIONS - FIRST SPACE MISSIONS

1990	4/25/90	HST NASA LEO	Ni/H <sub>2</sub>
	6/10/90	LEASAT Super Ni/Cd	GEO
1995	1/25/94	CLEMENTINE LUNAR MAPPING	SPV Ni/H <sub>2</sub>
	1/25/94	TUBSAT-B STORE MESSAGES	2 Cell CPV
	5/1995	CENTAUR 28V, 250AH LAUNCH VEHICLE	Li-SOCl <sub>2</sub>
	5/5/97	IRIDIUM-1 LEO 34 TO DATE	50Ah SPV
	NOV 97	FLIGHT EXP WAKESHIELD	Na/S
2000			



## EVOLUTION OF NI-CD BATTERIES IN SPACE

## NI-CD SPACE BATTERY EVOLUTION

	1958-69	1970-79	1980-89	1990-97
<b>Technology</b>	3-6 Ah Cells Pellon GTM Seals	5-20 Ah Cells Teflonation Ceramic Seals NASA Std Cells	NASA 50 Ah E-I Process Lt Wt Designs Passivation	Super Ni-Cds Pellon 2536
<b>Performance</b>	2-5% DOD < 1000 cycles Leaks Const. I Charge	10-20% DOD NASA VT	>10 Years GEO 40K Cycles LEO	'MATURE'
<b>Manufacturers</b>	Gould Gulton Saft Sonotone	EPI G.E.. Gulton Saft	EPI G.E../Gates Saft Sanyo	EPI Hughes Saft Sanyo Acme





# EVOLUTION OF NI-H<sub>2</sub> BATTERIES IN SPACE

# NI-H<sub>2</sub> SPACE BATTERY EVOLUTION

	1958-69	1970-79	1980-89	1990-97
Technology		35-50 Ah IPV E-I Aq. Process Back to Back(C) Recirculating(AF)	E-I Alc. Process 100 Ah	CPV & SPV 120 Ah 26% KOH
Performance		LEO 25% DOD 2000 Cycles Polar 40% DOD 5 years	40K Cycles LEO 10 YEARS GEO	50-100K LEO CYCLES
Manufacturers		EPI Yardney ERC SAFT GE	EPI Hughes JCI Saft Gates	EPI Hughes JCI Saft

## KEY EVENTS IN SPACE BATTERY HISTORY

	1958-69	1970-79	1980-89	1990-97
<b>NI-CD</b>	'59 EXPLORER-6 (CYLINDRICAL) '62 ARIEL-1 LEO ( PRISMATIC) '63 SYNCOM2 GEO		'80 SOLAR MAX NASA 20 AH STD '82 LANDSAT -D STD 50 Ah	'90 LEASAT GEO SUPER NI-CD
<b>NI-H<sub>2</sub></b>		'77 NTS-2 & AF FIRST IPV USE	INTELSAT 5 IPV GEO	'90 HUBBLE IPV '94 CLEMENTINE SPV '94 TUBSAT CPV
<b>LITHIUM</b>			'83 STS- LI-BCX '89 GALILEO Li-SO <sub>2</sub>	'95 CENTAUR '96 PATHFINDER

# NASA MISSIONS TODAY

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS OFFICE



## NEAR TERM NASA MISSIONS - GSFC

<u>LAUNCH DATE</u>	<u>MISSION NAME</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NO. BATS</u>	<u>NO CELLS/BAT</u>	<u>CELL CAPACITY</u>	<u>CELL TYPE</u>
11/97	TRMM	LEO	2	22	50Ah	EPI-SUPER NI-CD
12/97	TRACE/SMEX	LEO/SS	1	22	9Ah	EPI- SUPER NI-CD
?/97	ACE	LIBATION	1	18	12Ah	NI-CD
5/98	LANDSAT-7	LEO	2	17	50Ah	EPI - AXIAL Ni-H <sub>2</sub>
6/98	EOS-AM	LEO	2	54	50Ah	EPI-RE Ni-H <sub>2</sub>
7/98	GOES-L	GEO	2	28	12Ah	GATES / SAFT NI-CD
9/98	WIRE/SMEX	LEO	1	22	9Ah	EPI-SUPER NI-CD
?/99	IMAGE	LEO	1	22	21Ah	CS SUPER NI-CD
?/00	MAP	FULL SUN	1	11/2CELL	23Ah	CPV EPI-J RE NI-H <sub>2</sub>



## NEAR TERM NASA MISSIONS - JPL

<u>LAUNCH DATE</u>	<u>MISSION NAME</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NO. BATS</u>	<u>NO CELLS/BAT</u>	<u>CELL CAPACITY</u>	<u>CELL TYPE</u>
1996	MGS	MARS ORB	2	11/2CELL	23Ah	CPV EPI-J RE NI-H <sub>2</sub>
1996	MPF	LANDER	1	18	40Ah	AG/ZN RECHARGE
1996	MPF	ROVER	3	3	12Ah	LI-SOCL <sub>2</sub> 'D'
1997	CASSINI	PROBE	3	13	8Ah	LI-SO <sub>2</sub>
1998	NEW MIL DS-1		1	11/2CELL	12Ah	SAME AS MSTI-3
1998	NEW MIL DS-2		2	4	2Ah	LI-SOCL <sub>2</sub> FLAT PLATE
1998	MARS SURVEYOR/98		2	11/2CELL	16Ah	NI-H <sub>2</sub>
1999	STARDUST		2	11/2CELL	16Ah	NI-H <sub>2</sub>
1999	STARDUST SAMP. RET		3	13	8AH	LI-SO <sub>2</sub>



## NEAR TERM NASA MISSIONS - MSFC

<u>LAUNCH</u> <u>DATE</u>	<u>MISSION</u> <u>NAME</u>	<u>MISSION</u> <u>TYPE</u>	<u>NO.</u> <u>BATS</u>	<u>NO</u> <u>CELLS/BAT</u>	<u>CELL</u> <u>CAPACITY</u>	<u>CELL</u> <u>TYPE</u>
1998	AXAF	LEO	3	22 CELLS	40 Ah	EPI IPV NI-H <sub>2</sub>

# THE FUTURE OF BATTERIES IN SPACE

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS OFFICE

**JPL**



# POTENTIAL NASA SPACE MISSIONS / APPLICATIONS

## NASA MISSIONS

### JPL

MARS LANDER AND ROVER -2001  
MARS LANDER AND ROVER -2003  
MARS SAMPLE RETURN MISSION - 2005  
CHAMPOLION MISSION - 2003  
SOLAR PROBE - 2005

### GSFC

SATELLITE SERVICING TOOLS  
LIBATION POINT SPACRAFT  
(MAP-2000,NGST 2007)  
GEO SPACECRAFT(GOES)  
LEO SPACECRAFT(EOS)

### JSC

SHUTTLE APPLICATIONS

## AIR FORCE MISSIONS

### LEO

NPOESS -2007  
Surveill. Platforms  
SBIRS Low

### GEO

Milsatcom - 2002

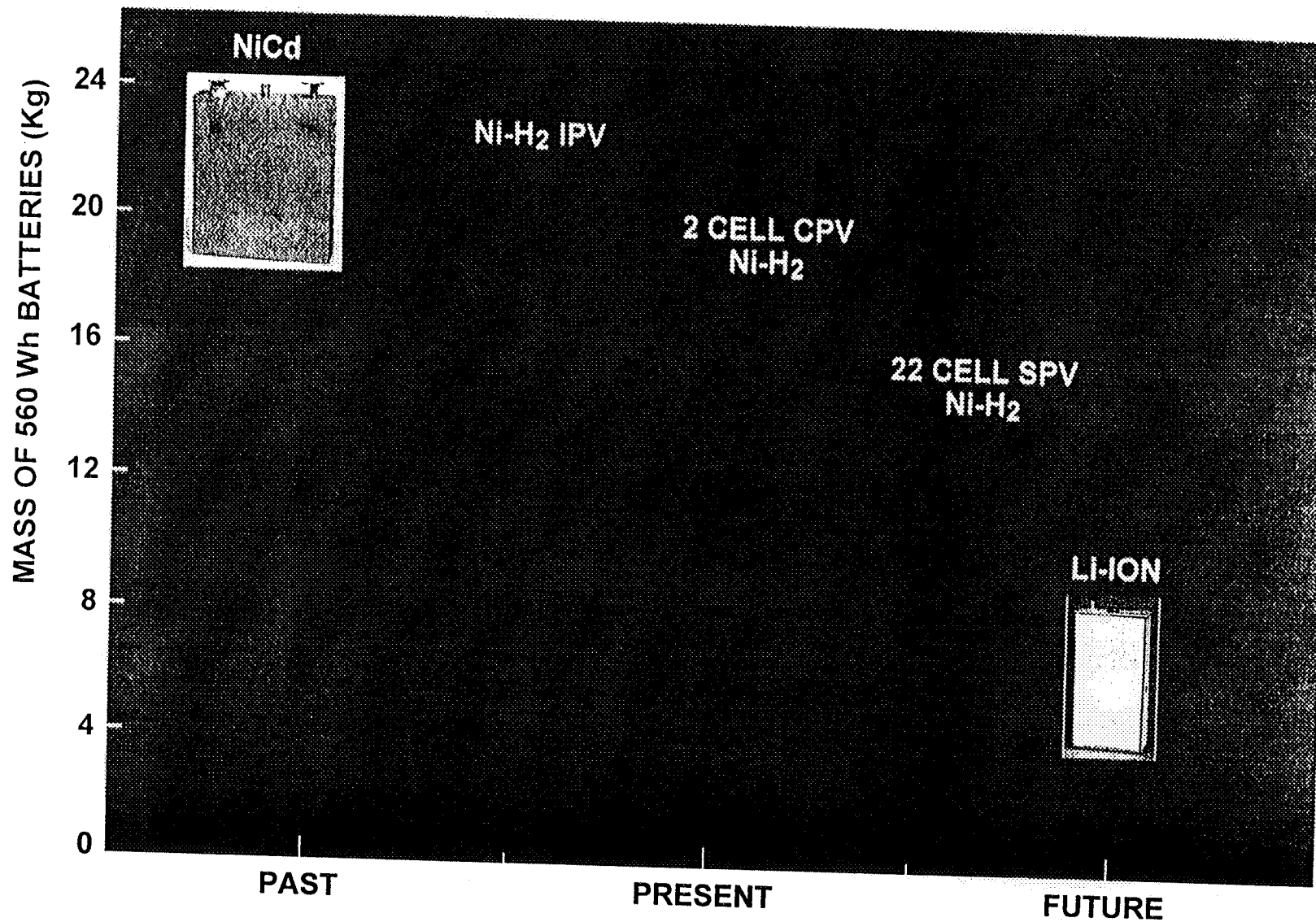
### DSP

### AIRCRAFT

AVIATION 2001

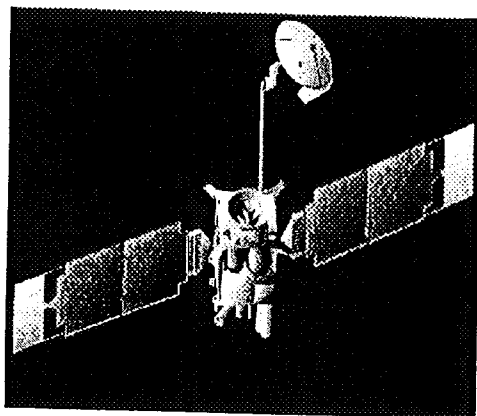
UAVs- 2002

# EVOLUTION OF FLIGHT BATTERIES

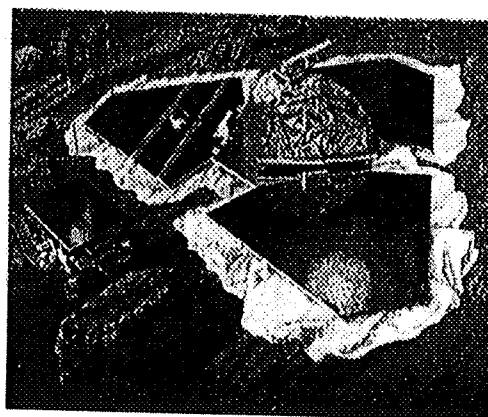


# POTENTIAL NASA APPLICATIONS

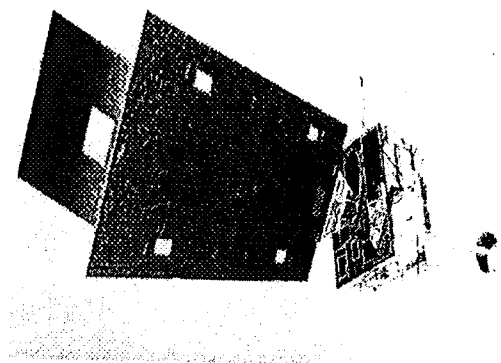
Planetary Orbiters



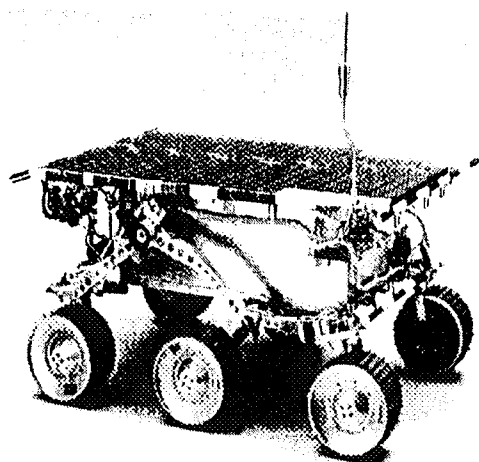
Planetary Lander



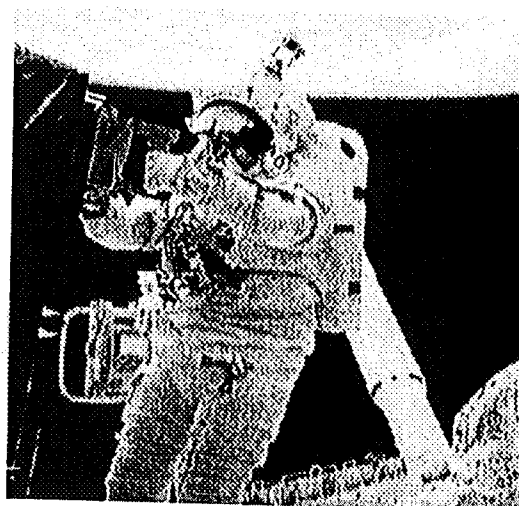
GEO Spacecraft



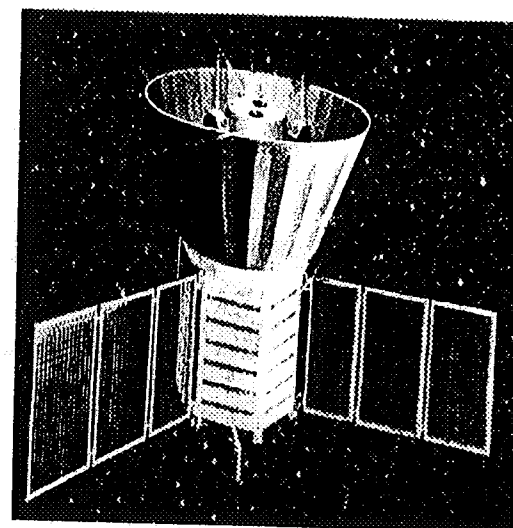
Planetary Rover



Astronaut Equipment



LEO Spacecraft



# TECHNOLOGY PROGRESSION

2003

28-270V  
10-100 Ah  
100 Wh/kg  
2000 GEO &  
30,000 LEO  
CYCLES

1996

1-20 Ah Cells  
100 Wh/kg  
500 cycles

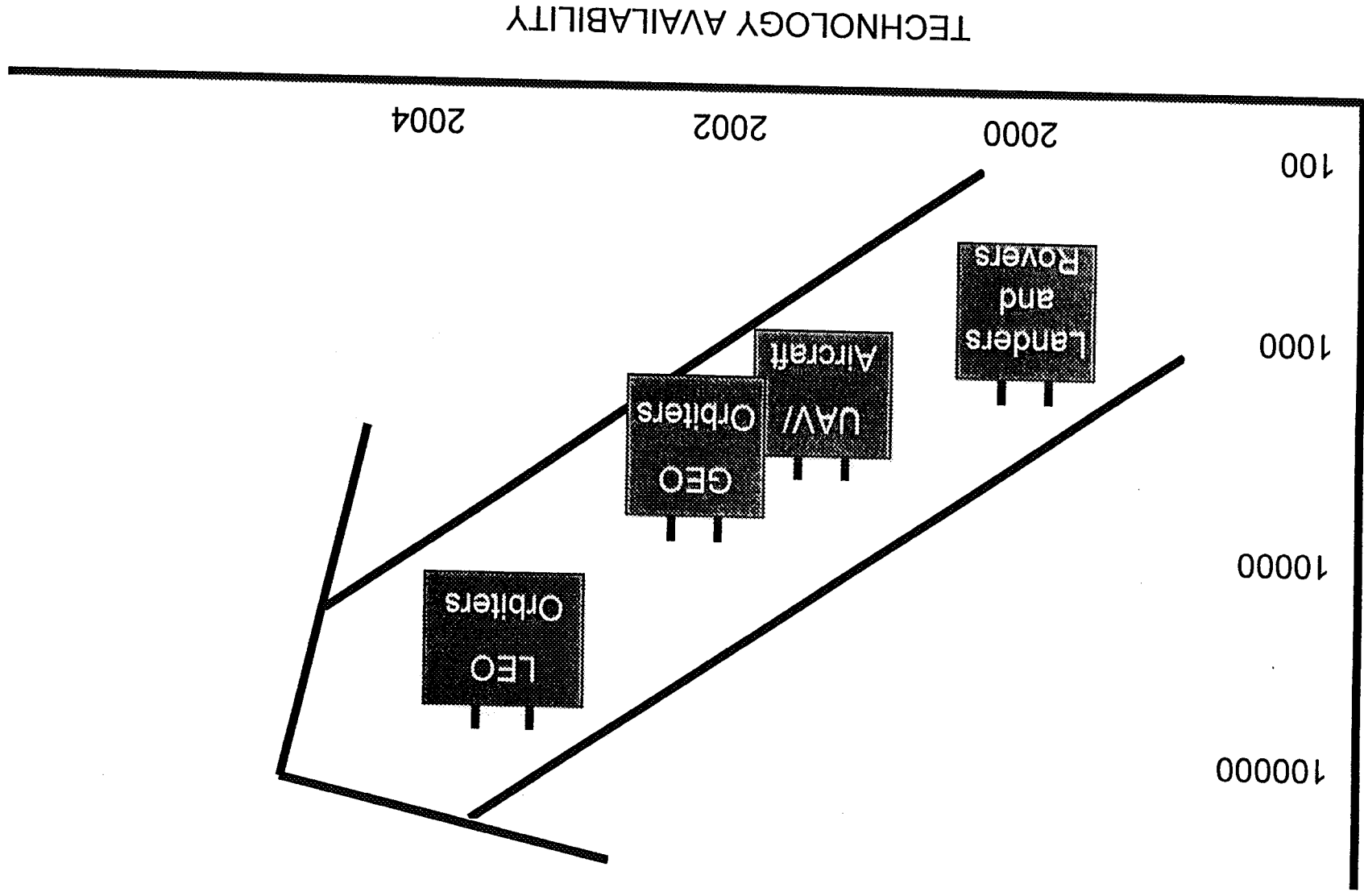
LONG LIFE  
Cell Design  
Battery Design  
Manufacturing  
Database  
Charge Control

1992

100 mAh  
< 200 cycles

Anode Mat.  
Electrolyte  
Cat. Mat.  
Separator  
Binder

# TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION MILESTONES



**PROGRAM OBJECTIVES  
OF NASA / AF LI-ION PROGRAM**

- DEVELOP ADVANCED LITHIUM ION CELLS AND SMART BATTERIES FOR AEROSPACE AND DOD APPLICATIONS
- ESTABLISH U.S. PRODUCTION SOURCES
- DEMONSTRATE TECHNOLOGY READINESS FOR:
  - SATELLITE SERVICING TOOLS BY 1999
  - ROVERS AND LANDERS BY 2000
  - LIBATION POINT MISSIONS BY 2000
  - GEO MISSIONS BY 2001
  - MILITARY TERRESTRIAL APPLICATIONS BY 2001
  - LEO MISSIONS BY 2003

## TECHNOLOGY CHOICES FOR FUTURE MISSIONS

### NEAR TERM (>2000):

#### LI-ION LIQUID ORGANIC ELECTROLYTE CELLS

- 1-20Ah CELL SIZES
- >1000 CYCLES
- SUPERIOR LOW TEMPERATURE PERFORMANCE
- COMMERCIAL APPLICATIONS USE
- LEVERAGE OF FUNDS SEVERAL PROGRAMS

### LONG TERM MISSIONS (>2007)

#### LI - ION POLYMER

- HIGHER SPECIFIC ENERGY
- ADAPTABILITY TO SEVERAL CONFIGURATIONS

## **TECHNOLOGY APPROACH TO NASA / AF LI-ION PROGRAM**

**DEVELOP ADVANCED ELECTRODE MATERIALS AND ELECTROLYTES TO  
ACHIEVE IMPROVED LOW TEMP. PERFORMANCE AND LONG CYCLE LIFE**

**OPTIMIZE CELL DESIGN TO IMPROVE SPEC. ENERGY, CYCLE LIFE AND  
SAFETY**

**ESTABLISH MANUFACTURING PROCESSES TO ENSURE PREDICTABLE  
PERFORMANCE**

**DEVELOP AEROSPACE LITHIUM ION CELLS IN 10, 20, 50, AND 200 AH SIZES**

**DEVELOP BATTERIES IN 28, 100 AND 270 V CONFIGURATIONS**

**DEVELOP ELECTRONICS FOR SMART BATTERY MANAGEMENT**

**DEVELOP A PERFORMANCE DATABASE FOR VARIOUS APPLICATIONS**

**DEMONSTRATE TECHNOLOGY READINESS FOR VARIOUS NASA AND AIR  
FORCE MISSIONS**



## SUMMARY

**THIS PAPER INCLUDED:**

**A CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF BATTERY FLIGHT  
FROM 1959 TO THE PRESENT**

**A LIST OF THE NEAR TERM FLIGHT MISSIONS FROM  
1997-2000**

**A PLAN FOR AN INTERAGENCY (NASA / AF) PROGRAM  
TO DEVELOP LI-ION BATTERIES FOR PLANETARY,  
AVIATION, LEO AND GEO MISSIONS FROM 2000-2003**